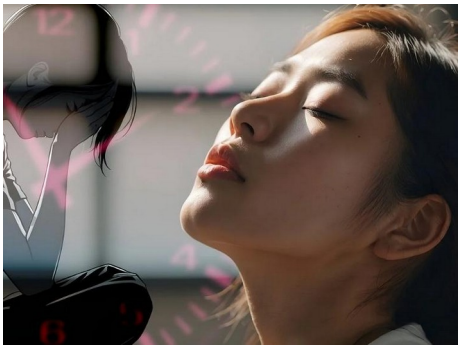
What If Your Life Struggle Is A Test From God? Here's How To Stand Firm



Author’s Note:

This paper is written to encourage believers who are going through difficult seasons to recognize that trials are often divine tests meant to refine their faith. Drawing from Scripture and personal experience, I hope to help readers understand God’s purpose in suffering and trust His perfect timing.

Have you ever complained about the whereabouts of God when the need for help becomes non-negotiable? What about for months to years no sign of God's intervention surfaces? I've been down this path and learned great lessons about God's silence amid varying challenges. The results of such long-suffering in the Lord is big and glorious. It comes in double like Job's blessings.

Are you the type who gives up easily in the face of trials and temptation? Listen, the Bible says that without faith, it is impossible to please God (Hebrews 11:6).

It's a big challenge that several Christians throw in the towel so quickly and end up being extremely disappointed —But God never disappoints!

Amid the pain and sorrows, where is your faith? Brace yourself and let me take you for a ride... Life is full of ups and downs —like a rollercoaster, but in all, God's eyes are on us. He is higher than the highs and the lows.

Imagine God answering your long-awaited prayers right in front of your eyes. Such experience brings joy to the soul and it proves God's faithfulness.

Understanding God's Purpose In Trials

I can see a lot of Christians blaming the devil for their suffering. But this isn't always the case. Oh Yes, the devil is a bad guy —but sometimes the struggles we face are tests from the Lord.

These tests aren't meant to make you fail but to refine your faith like gold, teach you how to depend on God, and prepare you for greater purposes.

I've noticed him test me a couple of times and one particular experience was outstanding. He kept silent to my prayers for years until finally opening the floodgates of heaven's blessings.

Being a follower of Jesus isn't meant for the weak or fearful, As C.S. Lewis once wrote;

> *“Hardships often prepare ordinary people for an extraordinary destiny" —C.S. Lewis*

Now, I believe you are well enlightened that not all the pain and suffering you face come from the enemy. Even if your current struggle is from the devil, know that the Lord is in control —as he said, he will not let greater temptations that outweigh your strength befall you (1 Corinthians 10:13).

You Are Not Exempted From Pain And Suffering

How can anyone live in this crooked world without pain and suffering? Seasons will change, they will be favorable or unfavorable. You can't expect to be happy throughout the rest of your natural life.

Even at a point in time, Jesus wept —his tears preceded the great miracle of Lazarus's resurrection. So believe that the joy and reward of your endurance is nearer.

A few years ago, my studies in the Bible helped me recognize something interesting: Too many worries about life struggles are useless. So why should I keep on worrying since the Bible tells me not to worry about anything? And what if the very thing I'm worrying about is a test from God?

I don't allow life struggles to steal my joy because the Scripture tells me not to be anxious about anything. Christians who suffer depression should know that God is bigger than the highs and the lows.

According to 2 Corinthians 12:7-10, Paul, upon all his anointing, faced degrees of hardships but endured to the end. Think of his painful experience —the “thorn in the flesh,” which tested his faith and kept him humble.

When God Seems Silent: A Personal Journey

As for me, getting to know Christ Jesus from childhood and rededicating myself to him in my youth boosted my love and faith in God. For over 25 years, I've learned to trust him in all circumstances.

Usually, I find myself hoping almost everything will fall into place within a short period. But that seemed like mere dreams. This awful experience has never bogged me down. Even if all other ground is sinking —I'm still on the solid Rock!

Prophetic words over my life appear to be delayed. But I still choose not to give up. I'm standing firm in the faith amid the storm.

Here I am, the prophecies seem to have passed. However, I can always hear that little whisper "God is never late". The challenges are still trying to pin me down. I can't blame God, but keep trusting Him. Because the Bible says God never lies or changes his mind.

"God is not a man, that he should lie, nor the son of man, that he should repent. Has he said, and will he not do it? Or has he spoken, and will he not make it good?" —Numbers 23:19.

So brethren, perhaps you've prayed for healing, restoration, or provision, yet no sign of heaven's gate opening. Just remember that delays are not denial. Even if God says "No," —it's an answer in the right sense.

How To Respond When Trial Come

Interestingly, not all the pain and suffering faithful believers face come from the enemy. The Lord can sometimes test us.
Think of Job, who endured unimaginable loss and never gave up. He declared, “When He has tested me, I will come forth as gold” (Job 23:10).

Jesus Might Be Testing You Like How He Tested His Disciples

Many Christians fail to recognize that some of the life struggles they find so disgusting, heartbreaking, and heavy burdens are tests from God. Bewildered? Let's get into the scriptures...

A few days ago I was intrigued when I read about how Jesus tested his disciples.

The Bible reads:

"Jesus therefore lifting up his eyes, and seeing that a large crowd was coming to him, said to Philip, “Where are we to buy bread, that these may eat?” This he said to test him, for he himself knew what he would do" —John 6:5-6.

Now, Jesus hasn't changed. He knew all our needs but could choose to test us. This usually comes in the middle of our challenges. When we think of the impossible, Jesus already knew what to do. The Great Provider never runs out of good things.

Today, the large crowd of Christian believers is up to **2.38 billion** out of the world's population of 8 billion. If you think you are truly following Jesus Christ, then be ready to stand firm in the faith when it's stormy.

Again, when the test was on Gideon, he stood firm and proved his faithfulness to God.

In Judges 6-7, God tested him to reduce his army from 32,000 to 300 men to fight the Midianites. God was teaching him to rely on divine power rather than human strength in huge numbers.

That Suffering And Pain Might Be Your Test

The complaints from Christians around the world sound overwhelming. It feels like our God is asleep, But he isn't. Several people suffer from marital problems, failure, brokenness, depression, diseases, Sicknesses, etc.

Now, if there is any affliction going on in your life, take a minute, relate this message about God's test, and ask yourself, "What if God is using this to test me?" Then redirect your complaints to God through fervent prayers.

James 1:3 reminds us that the testing of our faith in Jesus produces endurance.

So stay faithful and never give up. Even if your pain is a scheme of the devil; Remember what the book of Romans says; "If God is for us, who can be against us" —Romans 8:31.

Instead of worrying and complaining, choose to pray and be steadfast in the Lord, for Jesus already knows what to do. Believe that your miracle is just around the corner. Stay Strong In Christ!

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